

## Substitute Bill No. 5338

February Session, 2016

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## AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION OF RENTAL HOUSING PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2016) (a) For purposes of this 2 section, "person" means any employee of a public agency, as defined in section 1-200 of the general statutes, or any contractor that has entered 4 into a state contract with such public agency. No person shall, except 5 for purposes directly connected with the administration of programs 6 of the Department of Housing and in accordance with the regulations 7 of the commissioner, solicit, disclose, receive or make use of, or 8 authorize, knowingly permit, participate in or acquiesce in the use of, 9 any list of the names of, or any information concerning, individuals 10 applying for or receiving assistance from the Department of Housing 11 or individuals participating in a program administered by said 12 department, directly or indirectly derived from the records, papers, 13 files or communications of the state or its subdivisions or agencies, or 14 acquired in the course of the performance of official duties. The 15 Commissioner of Housing shall disclose (1) to any authorized representative of the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction 16 17 Services any information necessary for the implementation and 18 operation of the basic needs supplement program; (2) to any 19 authorized representative of the Commissioner of Administrative 20 Services, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public

21 Protection or the Commissioner of Social Services such information as 22 the Commissioner of Housing determines is directly related to and 23 necessary for the Department of Administrative Services, the 24 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or the 25 Department of Social Services to collect social services recoveries and 26 overpayments or amounts due as support in social services cases, 27 investigating social services fraud or locating absent parents of public 28 assistance recipients; (3) to any authorized representative of the 29 Commissioner of Children and Families necessary information 30 concerning a child or the immediate family of a child, including safety 31 net services, if (A) the Commissioner of Children and Families or the 32 Commissioner of Housing has determined that imminent danger to 33 such child's health, safety or welfare exists to obtain the services of the 34 family services programs administered by the Department of Children 35 and Families, or (B) the Commissioner of Children and Families 36 requires access to the federal Parent Locator Service established 37 pursuant to 88 Stat. 2353 (1975), 42 USC 653 in order to identify a parent or putative parent of a child; (4) to any authorized 38 39 representative of the Commissioner of Early Childhood to carry out his 40 or her respective responsibilities under programs that regulate child 41 day care services or youth camps; (5) to a health insurance provider, in 42 IV-D support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of 43 section 46b-231 of the general statutes, information concerning a child 44 and the custodial parent of such child that is necessary to enroll such 45 child in a health insurance plan available through such provider when 46 the noncustodial parent of such child is under court order to provide 47 health insurance coverage but is unable to provide such information, 48 provided the Commissioner of Housing determines, after providing 49 prior notice of the disclosure to such custodial parent and an 50 opportunity for such parent to object, that such disclosure is in the best 51 interests of the child; (6) to any authorized representative of the 52 Department of Correction, in IV-D support cases, as defined in 53 subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-231 of the general 54 statutes, information concerning noncustodial parents that is necessary 55 to identify inmates or parolees with IV-D support cases who may benefit from Department of Correction educational, training, skill building, work or rehabilitation programming that will significantly increase an inmate's or parolee's ability to fulfill such inmate's support obligation; (7) to any authorized representative of the Judicial Branch, in IV-D support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-231 of the general statutes, information concerning noncustodial parents that is necessary to: (A) Identify noncustodial parents with IV-D support cases who may benefit from educational, training, skill building, work or rehabilitation programming that will significantly increase such parent's ability to fulfill such parent's support obligation, (B) assist in the administration of the Title IV-D child support program, or (C) assist in the identification of cases involving family violence; (8) to any authorized representative of the State Treasurer, in IV-D support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-231 of the general statutes, information that is necessary to identify child support obligors who owe overdue child support prior to the Treasurer's payment of such obligors' claim for any property unclaimed or presumed abandoned under part III of chapter 32 of the general statutes; or (9) to any authorized representative of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management any information necessary for the implementation and operation of the renters rebate program established by section 12-170d of the general statutes. No person shall disclose any information obtained pursuant to this section, except as specified in this section. Any applicant for assistance provided through the Department of Housing shall be notified that, if and when such applicant receives benefits, the department will be providing law enforcement officials with the address of such applicant upon the request of any such official pursuant to section 2 of this act.

(b) In IV-D support cases, as defined in subdivision (13) of subsection (b) of section 46b-231 of the general statutes, in addition to the prohibitions of subsection (a) of this section, no information shall be released concerning the whereabouts of one party to another party (1) against whom a protective order, a restraining order or a standing

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- 90 criminal protective order with respect to the former party is in effect; 91 or (2) if the department has reason to believe that the release of the 92 information may result in physical or emotional harm to the former 93 party.
- 94 (c) The Commissioner of Housing shall provide written notice to an 95 individual applying for or receiving assistance from the Department of 96 Housing or an individual participating in a program administered by 97 said department that such individual's address, telephone number and 98 any other necessary information may be provided to the Department 99 of Children and Families pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (a) 100
- 101 Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2016) The Commissioner of 102 Housing shall disclose the current address of an applicant or recipient 103 of benefits under any program administered by the Department of 104 Housing, unless prohibited by federal law, upon the request of a 105 federal, state or local law enforcement officer if the following 106 conditions are met:
  - (1) Such officer provides said department with the name of the recipient;
- 109 (2) (A) Such officer notifies said department that the recipient is 110 fleeing to avoid prosecution, or custody or confinement after 111 conviction, under the laws of the place from which the individual flees, 112 for a crime, or an attempt to commit a crime, which is a felony or high 113 misdemeanor under the laws of the place from which the individual 114 flees, or violating a condition of probation or parole imposed under 115 federal or state law as a result of the commission of such a felony or 116 high misdemeanor, or (B) the recipient has information necessary for 117 such officer to conduct official duties in relation to a crime committed 118 or an attempt to commit a crime which is a felony or high misdemeanor in the state in which the crime is committed or 119 120 attempted; and

of this section.

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121 (3) The location or apprehension of the recipient is within official duties of such officer.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2016	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2016	New section

**HSG** Joint Favorable Subst.